

News

from the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet



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ICE STORM CAUSES FEW POWER PROBLEMS, PSC REPORTS

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Jan. 26, 2004) – The winter storm that swept through Kentucky Sunday caused relatively few power outages, according to reports from utility companies to the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

“Most of those who lost power had it restored quickly,” PSC Executive Director Tom Dorman said. “The utility companies had brought in extra crews and were well-prepared to handle the situation.”

The storm left less than an inch of ice in its wake. In contrast, the February 2003 ice storm deposited as much as three inches of ice in many places. It knocked out power to more than 100,000 customers, some of whom were without electricity for more than a week.

“We haven’t seen the kind of extreme damage, with poles snapped and entire trees across lines, that we saw last year,” Dorman said. “This storm covered a much wider area, but caused fewer problems.”

Outages reported to the PSC by regulated utilities (municipal utilities and rural electric cooperatives served by the Tennessee Valley Authority are not PSC-regulated) included:

- Kenergy Corp.: 4,000 customers out at peak; 2,300 out Monday morning; complete restoration by end of day Monday
- Kentucky Utilities Corp.: 9,500 customers across Kentucky affected; all restored by Monday morning
- Louisville Gas & Electric Co.: 1,200 customers affected; nearly all power restored by Sunday night
- Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative: 2,500 without power Monday morning; many outages are fallen individual property connections; full restoration Tuesday
- Salt River Rural Electric Cooperative: 650 customers out Monday morning; full restoration by Monday evening.